

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

This patent application is related to the following co-pending, commonly assigned patent applications, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety:

1. U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 09/639,731, "Microarray Placer Unit," by Bevirt, et al., filed ~~concurrently herewith~~ August 15, 2000.
2. U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 09/639,734, "Microarray Alignment Mechanism," by Rollins, et al., filed ~~concurrently herewith~~ August 15, 2000.
3. U.S. Patent Application, Serial No. 09/639,733, "Microarray Platen," by Bevirt, et al., filed ~~concurrently herewith~~ August 15, 2000.
4. Provisional Application, Serial No. 60/224,335, "Microarray Placer Unit," by Bevirt, et al., filed August 11, 2000.
5. Provisional Application, Serial No. 60/224,337, "Microarray Alignment Mechanism," by Rollins, et al., filed August 11, 2000.
6. Provisional Application, Serial No. 60/224,334, "Microarray Platen," by Bevirt, et al., filed August 11, 2000.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 20 and continuing onto page 11, with the following amended paragraph:

The storage unit 52 includes a storage frame 56, a storage rack 58, and a rack motor assembly 60. The storage frame 56 is rigidly attached to the microarray printer 30. The storage frame may also include protective covers 62. The storage rack 58 is mounted on a linear rail ~~[[64]]~~ 63 on the storage frame 56 and is capable of traversing

in the horizontal direction as illustrated by arrow A in FIG. 3A and 3C. As shown in FIG. 3, the storage rack is clamped to the linear rail on the storage frame 56 via rail mounts 66. The rack motor assembly 60 enables the storage rack 58 to traverse along the linear rail of the storage frame 56. The rack motor assembly 60 may be electrically controlled by a computer system. The rack motor assembly 60 is rigidly mounted to storage frame 56 or the storage rack 58. The rack motor assembly 60 may include a brushless DC motor 61 that drives on a lead screw 65 to move the storage rack 58 in the horizontal direction. It is contemplated that the rack motor assembly may translate by other means such as a pneumatic actuator that slides the storage rack 58 in the horizontal direction. As described in more detail below, the horizontal movement of the storage rack 58 enables the lifter unit ~~[[58]]~~ 54 to access microscope slides 32 in the horizontal direction.